IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising:

a plurality of devices interconnected via a bus, the bus being capable of handling isochronous and asynchronous transmissions; and

a status manager including:~~,~~

status channel creation means for creating on the bus a status channel for transmission access to the bus during an isochronous-channel sub-cycle, of an isochronous cycle, that precedes an asynchronous-channel sub-cycle of said isochronous cycle~~an isochronous status channel,~~; and

status transmitting means for transmitting status information on ~~the isochronous~~said status channel.

2. (Previously Presented) A communication system comprising:

a plurality of devices interconnected via a bus, the bus being capable of handling isochronous and asynchronous transmissions; and

a status manager including,

status channel creation means for creating on the bus an isochronous status channel, and

status transmitting means for transmitting status information on the isochronous status channel, wherein the status manager further includes status reception means for asynchronously receiving status information from a device among said plurality of devices, coupled to the status transmitting means for transmitting the received status information on the isochronous status channel.

3. (Previously Presented) A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the status manager is further arranged to send to the device an identifier for the isochronous status channel in response to receiving the status information.

4. (Currently Amended) A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a device among said plurality of devices includes status reading means for reading the transmitted status information from ~~the isochronous~~said status channel.

5. (Currently Amended) A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a device among said plurality of devices includes status sending means for sending status information to the status manager asynchronously for subsequent said transmitting on said status channel.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the status information comprises information on ~~the~~ network topology of the communication system.

7. (Previously Presented) A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the status information comprises information on capabilities of a device in the communication system.

8. (Previously Presented) A communication system as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the status information comprises information on available bandwidth on the bus.

9. (Currently Amended) A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the status information comprises information on signal strength~~a strength of a level of attachment~~ between a mobile device and a base station device in the communication system.

10. (Currently Amended) In a communication system having a plurality of devices interconnected via a bus ~~adapted to handle~~configured for handling isochronous and asynchronous transmissions, a device for use as status manager in the communication system, said device comprising:

status channel creation means for creating on the bus a status channel for transmission access to the bus during an isochronous-channel sub-cycle, of an isochronous cycle, that precedes an asynchronous-channel sub-cycle of said isochronous cycle~~an isochronous status channel~~; and

status transmitting means for transmitting status information on ~~the isochronous~~said status channel.

11. (Currently Amended) In a communication system having a plurality of devices interconnected via a bus configured for handling~~adapted to handle~~ isochronous and asynchronous transmissions, and a status manager for creating on the bus a status channel for transmission access to the bus during an isochronous-channel sub-cycle, of an isochronous cycle, that precedes an asynchronous-channel sub-cycle of said isochronous

cyclean isochronous status channel and for transmitting status information on thesaid status channel, a device comprising a status reading module for reading the transmitted status information from the isochronoussaid status channel.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said isochronous-channel sub-cycle follows an isochronous-channel protocol, said asynchronous-channel sub-cycle follows an asynchronous-channel protocol, and said status channel creation means is configured for allocating, as an isochronous channel subject to said isochronous-channel protocol,for use as said isochronous status channel in said transmitting.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said isochronous-channel sub-cycle follows an isochronous-channel protocol, said asynchronous-channel sub-cycle follows an asynchronous-channel protocol, and said status channel creation means is configured for causing allocation, as of an isochronous channel subject to said isochronous-channel protocol,for use as said isochronous status channel in said transmitting.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein said isochronous-channel sub-cycle follows an isochronous-channel protocol, said asynchronous-channel sub-cycle follows an asynchronous-channel protocol, and said status channel creation means is configured for allocating, as an isochronous channel subject to said

isochronous-channel protocol,~~for use as~~ said ~~isochronous~~ status channel ~~in said transmitting~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein said isochronous-channel sub-cycle follows an isochronous-channel protocol, said asynchronous-channel sub-cycle follows an asynchronous-channel protocol, and said status channel creation means is configured for causing allocation, ~~of~~as an isochronous channel subject to said isochronous-channel protocol,~~for use as~~ said ~~isochronous~~ status channel ~~in said transmitting~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 11, wherein said isochronous-channel sub-cycle follows an isochronous-channel protocol, said asynchronous-channel sub-cycle follows an asynchronous-channel protocol, and said creating allocates, as an isochronous channel subject to said isochronous-channel protocol,~~for use as~~ said ~~isochronous~~ status channel ~~in said transmitting~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 11, wherein said isochronous-channel sub-cycle follows an isochronous-channel protocol, said asynchronous-channel sub-cycle follows an asynchronous-channel protocol, and said creating entails causing allocation, as ~~of~~ an isochronous channel subject to said isochronous-channel protocol,~~for use as~~ said ~~isochronous~~ status channel ~~in said transmitting~~.

18. (Currently Amended) In a communication system having a plurality of devices interconnected via a bus configured for handling~~adapted to handle~~ isochronous and asynchronous transmissions, a device for use as status manager in the communication system, said device comprising:

status channel creation means for creating on the bus a status channel for transmission access to the bus during an isochronous-channel sub-cycle, of an isochronous cycle, that precedes an asynchronous-channel sub-cycle of said isochronous cycle~~an isochronous status channel~~; and

status transmitting means for transmitting status information on ~~the isochronous status channel~~said status channel.

19. (New) The device of claim 18, wherein said status information transmittable on said status channel is received by said device over said bus.

20. (New) The device of claim 18, wherein said device obtains from a source said device accesses itself, without having to obtain from any other of the plural devices, said status information transmittable on said status channel.

21. (New) The device of claim 18, wherein the status channel creation means comprises means for contacting a device, of the plural devices, that has means cooperative with said status channel creation means for establishing a channel.

22. (New) The device of claim 18, further comprising means for asynchronously receiving the status information transmittable on said status channel.